## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Mazda et al.

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For: VERTEBRAL FIXATION SYSTEM

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Examiner: Jerry L. Cumberledge

Group Art Unit: 3733

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Date of Deposit: June 19, 2008

Catherine Pennington

## REPLY TO THE OFFICE ACTION MAILED ON MARCH 19, 2008 AND AMENDMENT

Mail Stop AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the non-final Office Action mailed on March 19, 2008. Please reconsider the application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.